

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Austria/Yugoslavia/USSR

DATE DISTR. 3 June 1949

SUBJECT Cessation of Shipment of Rails
to Yugoslavia by USIA Order

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIRE [REDACTED]

25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

25X1A

DATE OF [REDACTED]

25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] a representative of the Yugoslav Purchasing Commission in Vienna was called to Shevchenko's* office, where he was informed that notification had been received from Captain Tikhomirov of the Soviet Transport Section in the Hotel Imperial to the effect that no more transport permits would be issued for shipment of rails to Yugoslavia. Shevchenko referred specifically to the USIA-Yugoslav contract signed 27 April 1949 for the purchase of 5,000 tons of steel rails, delivery of which would now be stopped. Eight hundred tons of these rails have already been paid for by the Yugoslav Purchasing Commission. Of this amount, two hundred tons have already left Vienna by barge, four hundred tons have been loaded on barges, and two hundred tons are at the dockside awaiting loading.

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2. [REDACTED] the significance of this move may be that the Soviets consider the rails to have a potential military value to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] the Soviets have received instructions to curtail trade with Yugoslavia and to enforce economic sanctions, or that the move is intended to unnerve the Yugoslav representatives in Austria.

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3. The Yugoslavs have for the past year taken advantage of extreme laxity of Soviet controls to circumvent Vienna clearance regulations for barge transportation on the Danube. No difficulty appears to have been encountered in moving the barges through Czechoslovakia and Hungary. [REDACTED] that this circumvention of Soviet controls could continue, even if the Tikhomirov ban on transport permits remains in force.

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* [REDACTED] Comment: Shevchenko is General Director of the Commercial Branch of USIA.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO..

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DATE DISTR. 16 June 1949

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C O R R E C T I O N

In paragraph 1 of [] Tikhomirov, General Director of USIA, was erroneously referred to as Captain Tikhomirov of the Soviet Transport Section in the Hotel Imperial.

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